

MEDICA®

2005
HOSPITAL AND OUTPATIENT SURGERY
FACILITY GUIDE AND PRICING CATALOG



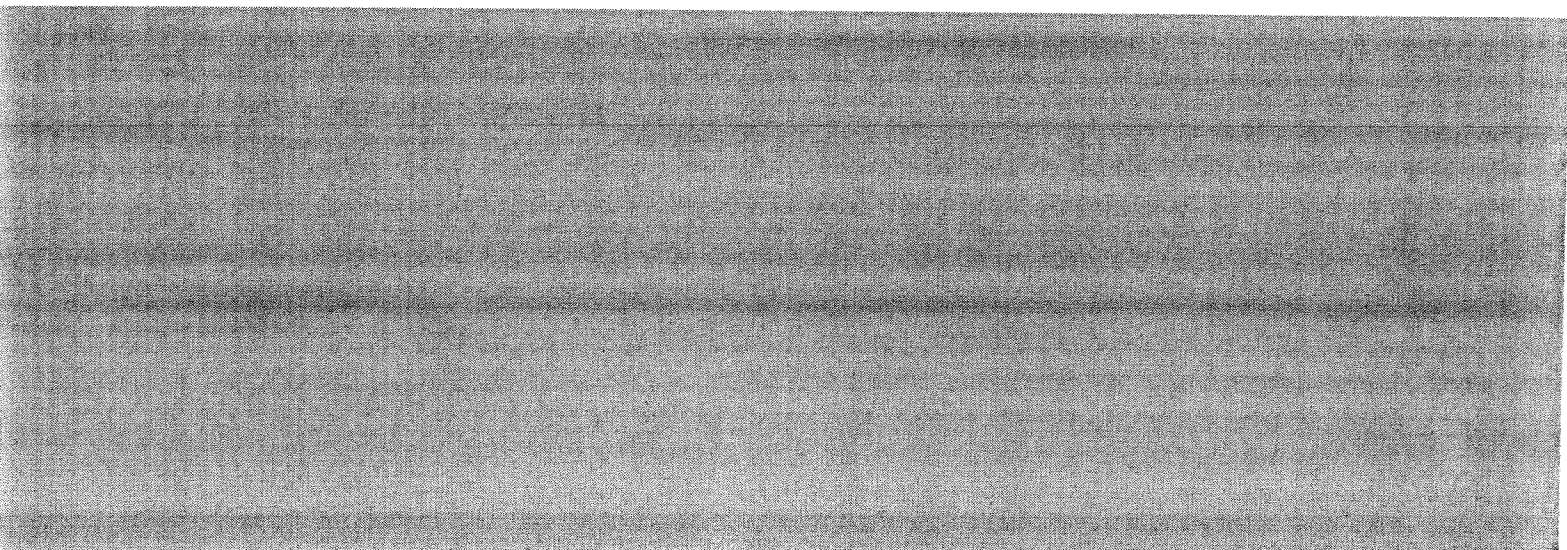
YOUR GUIDE TO MAKING WISE CHOICES
ABOUT YOUR CARE. —————>

 **Patient Choice**
insights by Medica



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OVERVIEW

If you, a family member, or friend require services from a hospital or other health care facility, you want to make sure you receive high quality, cost-effective care. We've developed this guide to help you evaluate your options and choose wisely.

In this guide, you'll find information about the tools and resources that are available to help you better understand the differences that exist among hospitals and other health care facilities—so you can make the choices that are right for you.

It's another way Medica is putting you in control of your health care decisions.

HOSPITAL COMPARISON TOOL

Hospital care can vary dramatically. The fact is, some hospitals perform better than others for certain types of illnesses or procedures. And no one hospital is the best for all procedures. Fortunately, finding meaningful, relevant information about hospital performance is quick and easy when you use the Hospital Comparison Tool powered by HealthShare Technology and available on myMedica.com.

Using evidence-based data, this tool allows you to compare hospitals according to a specific condition or procedure based on factors that you select as important—factors such as:

- > **Patient Volume:** Find out how much experience a hospital has in treating patients for a particular illness or procedure.
- > **Mortality Rate:** Learn the percentage of patients who died while being treated.
- > **Unfavorable Outcomes:** Identify specific problems that may be related to the quality of care and the percentage of patients who experienced those problems.
- > **Time:** Check the average number of days patients stayed in the hospital for a specific procedure or treatment.
- > **Patient Safety:** Review hospital results on the LeapFrog Group Hospital Survey.

You will also find additional resources to help you compare hospitals listed on page 5.

SAMPLE HOSPITAL REPORT

Summary

Patients/yr

Mortality

Complications

Length of Stay

Other Evals

Report on Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery

(primary procedure)

This report compares hospitals within 20 miles of Minneapolis, MN for Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery (primary procedure), and is based on your selections and rankings. This is just one of several sources you should consult to select a hospital; always consult your physician about what decision is right for you.

Summary

Name	Rank	Index	Patients/yr	Mortality	Complications	LOS
Hospital A	1 st	2.33	5 th	1 st	1 st	2 nd
Hospital B	2 nd	3.00	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	1 st
Hospital C	2 nd	3.00	4 th	2 nd	3 rd	5 th
Hospital D	4 th	3.33	3 rd	5 th	2 nd	4 th
Hospital E	4 th	3.33	1 st	4 th	5 th	3 rd

This chart summarizes the results of all measures of this group of hospitals. Lower numbers are better.

2005 FACILITY PRICING CATALOG

> CONTRACTED FACILITY PRICING BY PROCEDURE WITHOUT COMPLICATIONS*

Minneapolis/ St. Paul Metro Area Facilities	Tier	Inpatient Services								Outpatient Services						
		Maternity - Cesarean Delivery/ Newborn Services	Maternity-Vaginal Delivery/ Newborn Services	Coronary Bypass	Coronary Angioplasty w/out Acute Myocardial Infarction, w/ Coronary Artery Stent Implant	Coronary Angioplasty w/out Acute Myocardial Infarction, w/out Coronary Artery Stent Implant	Hernia Repair, Adult	Hip Replacement	Hysterectomy	MRI	CT Scan	Tonsil and/or Adenoid Removal	Ear Tubes	Inguinal Hernia Repair (adult & pediatrics)	Diagnostic Cardiac Catheterization	Joint Arthroscopy
Fairview Lakes Regional Medical Center Wyoming, MN	\$\$	\$6,000 / \$1,000	\$4,500 / \$1,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$6,700	\$15,000	\$6,000	\$1,000	\$600	\$2,100	\$1,300	\$2,800	N/A	\$3,100
Fairview Northland Regional Hospital Princeton, MN	\$\$	\$6,000 / \$1,000	\$4,500 / \$1,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$6,700	\$15,000	\$6,000	\$1,000	\$600	\$2,100	\$1,300	\$2,800	N/A	\$3,100
Fairview Ridges Hospital Burnsville, MN	\$\$	\$6,000 / \$1,000	\$4,500 / \$1,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$6,700	\$15,000	\$6,000	\$600	\$450	\$1,800	\$1,000	\$2,200	N/A	\$2,500
Fairview Southdale Hospital Edina, MN	\$\$	\$6,000 / \$1,000	\$4,500 / \$1,000	\$35,000	\$12,000	\$10,500	\$6,700	\$15,000	\$6,000	\$600	\$450	\$1,800	\$1,000	\$2,200	\$2,000	\$2,500
Fairview-University Medical Center - Riverside Campus Minneapolis, MN	\$\$	\$6,000 / \$1,000	\$4,500 / \$1,000	\$40,000	\$16,000	\$14,000	\$6,700	\$18,000	\$6,800	\$600	\$450	\$1,800	\$1,000	\$2,200	\$2,000	\$2,500
Fairview-University Medical Center - University Campus Minneapolis, MN	\$\$	\$6,000 / \$1,000	\$4,500 / \$1,000	\$40,000	\$16,000	\$14,000	\$6,700	\$18,000	\$6,800	\$600	\$450	\$1,800	\$1,000	\$2,200	\$2,000	\$2,500
HealthEast St John's Hospital Maplewood, MN	\$\$\$	\$9,758 / \$904	\$3,455 / \$904	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$4,981	\$9,969	\$6,987	\$537	\$231	\$1,013	\$491	\$1,013	N/A	\$1,715
HealthEast St Joseph's Hospital Saint Paul, MN	\$\$\$	\$9,758 / \$904	\$3,455 / \$904	\$41,531	\$22,233	\$11,180	\$4,981	\$9,969	\$6,987	\$537	\$231	\$1,013	\$491	\$1,013	\$1,291	\$1,715
HealthEast Surgery Center - Maplewood Maplewood, MN	\$\$\$	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$537	\$231	\$1,013	\$491	\$1,013	\$1,291	\$1,715
HealthEast Surgery Center - Midway St. Paul, MN	\$\$\$	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$537	\$231	\$1,013	\$491	\$1,013	\$1,291	\$1,715
Methodist Hospital Minneapolis, MN	\$	\$9,000 / \$900	\$3,400 / \$900	\$34,000	\$14,500	\$10,700	\$4,500	\$14,000	\$6,300	\$1,000	\$300	\$1,600	\$1,100	\$2,200	\$2,700	\$2,100
North Memorial Medical Center Minneapolis, MN	\$	\$10,070 / \$988	\$3,729 / \$988	\$35,863	\$16,150	\$10,821	\$4,988	\$15,010	\$7,505	\$685	\$330	\$1,530	\$698	\$2,165	\$2,638	\$2,195
Woodwinds Health Campus Woodbury, MN	\$\$\$	\$9,758 / \$904	\$3,455 / \$904	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$4,981	\$9,969	\$6,987	\$537	\$231	\$1,013	\$491	\$1,013	N/A	\$1,715

N/A = Procedure not performed at facility.

* The Facility Pricing Catalog includes contracted facility rates only. Most procedures will involve additional fees for the physician services such as the surgeon, anesthesiologist, and/or pathologist. Pricing is based on procedures without complications. Pricing for individual cases may vary depending on the severity of illness and/or complexity of the procedure performed.

> FACILITIES THAT DID NOT
SUBMIT PRICING FOR THE
CATALOG

Minneapolis/St. Paul Metro Area Facilities		Tier
Abbott Northwestern Hospital Minneapolis, MN		\$\$
Buffalo Hospital Buffalo, MN		\$\$\$
Cambridge Medical Center Cambridge, MN		\$\$\$
Cannon Falls Community Hospital Cannon Falls, MN		\$\$
Children's Hospital - Minneapolis Minneapolis, MN		\$\$\$
Children's Hospital - St. Paul Saint Paul, MN		\$\$\$
Fairview Red Wing Medical Center Red Wing, MN		\$\$
HealthEast Bethesda Rehabilitation Hospital Minneapolis, MN		\$\$\$
HealthEast Bethesda Rehabilitation Hospital Saint Paul, MN		\$\$\$
Hennepin County Medical Center Minneapolis, MN		\$\$\$
Lakeview Hospital Stillwater, MN		\$
Mercy Hospital Coon Rapids, MN		\$\$
Monticello Big Lake Community Hospital Monticello, MN		\$\$\$
Phillips Eye Institute Minneapolis, MN		\$\$
Regina Medical Center Hastings, MN		\$\$\$
Regions Hospital Saint Paul, MN		\$\$
Ridgeview Medical Center Waconia, MN		\$
St Francis Regional Medical Center Shakopee, MN		\$\$\$
United Hospital Saint Paul, MN		\$\$
Unity Hospital Fridley, MN		\$\$

ABOUT THE FACILITY PRICING CATALOG

With Patient Choice Insights by Medica, you have access to this innovative Facility Pricing Catalog. It was developed as part of our ongoing effort to create a consumer- friendly marketplace where information about health care costs is straightforward and easy to understand.

This unique listing allows you to see the actual pricing on which your benefits are based. It equips you with the information you need to better manage your health care dollars and enables you to gauge value as you weigh your care options.

USING THE FACILITY PRICING CATALOG

You can use the information listed in the Facility Pricing Catalog to help you better estimate your out-of-pocket costs for a particular procedure. By reviewing this pricing information, the tier assigned to your chosen facility and your coverage document, you can get a general idea of how much you may need to contribute toward the facility portion of the total cost of your care.

Here's how it works. Let's say you are planning to have a hernia repair and want to estimate the out-of-pocket cost you may incur. Below are two examples:

	Facility price listed in the catalog	Tier of the facility selected	Plan benefits for outpatient services	Your estimated out-of-pocket cost
Example 1	\$4,500	Tier 1 (\$)	20% coinsurance for facilities in tier 1 (\$)	\$900
Example 2	\$6,700	Tier 2 (\$\$)	30% coinsurance for facilities in tier 2 (\$\$)	\$2,010

Note: Examples assume that a deductible (if applicable) has been met. Your employer sets your plan benefit levels which may vary from the examples above.

Keep in mind that the pricing information includes contracted facility rates only. It does not include charges that are billed separately from a facility's charges, such as physician fees. Most procedures will involve additional fees for physicians' services such as the surgeon, anesthesiologist, and/or pathologist.

Pricing is based on procedures without complications. Pricing for individual cases may vary depending on the severity of illness and/or complexity of the actual procedure performed.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE FACILITY PRICING CATALOG

> I noticed that some of the other decision support tools available on *myMedica.com* include cost information that is different from what appears in the Facility Pricing Catalog. Why?

The Facility Pricing Catalog represents the contracted rate by individual facility on which your benefits are determined and is a more accurate estimate of what will be paid. Other available tools such as the Treatment Cost Estimator™ show the average cost of all billed charges for procedures in this geographic area.

> How does a facility's pricing information correspond to its tier assignment?

The amount a hospital or outpatient facility charges varies by procedure. The Facility Pricing Catalog includes information on a limited number of elective inpatient and outpatient services and does not necessarily reflect a facility's overall tier placement.

The tier in which a hospital or facility is placed is determined by overall cost as well as its performance on other quality and efficiency measures. That means, a facility with a lower price for a certain procedure will not necessarily be in a lower tier. Conversely, a facility with higher pricing for a certain procedure may be in a lower tier overall.

If cost is an important part of your decision, you'll want to consider the Facility Pricing Catalog information and the facility's tier placement, as well as the benefits stated in your plan documents to determine the estimated cost to you.

> Is the lowest priced facility always the best choice?

Not necessarily. Just as you consider many factors when making other purchasing decisions, the lowest priced option may not best meet your needs. Considerations such as special expertise, experience, convenience, special equipment, etc. are examples of other factors that you may want to weigh along with price.

> Some of the facilities do not have pricing information listed. Why not?

All of the network hospitals were asked to submit information for our Facility Pricing Catalog; however, not all chose to participate. We will continue working to expand the information available in the catalog and provide you with meaningful information to support choices about your care.

> Does the price stated in the Facility Pricing Catalog include all the charges associated with the procedure?

No. The Facility Pricing Catalog represents the contracted rate for the facility's services only. Separately billed charges such as physician fees are not included. In addition, the pricing is based on procedures without complications. Pricing for individual cases may vary depending on the severity of illness and/or complexity of the procedure performed.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES

> The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations (JCAHO) (www.jcaho.org).

This prominent organization evaluates the quality and safety

of care for nearly 15,000 health care organizations. Their web site includes a Quality Check™ tool where you can find out if an organization has been accredited—meaning it is compliant with the established standards and other accreditation requirements.

> The LeapFrog Group (www.leapfroggroup.org).

This national consortium of Fortune 500 companies and other large private and public health care purchasers, works to educate providers and consumers about patient safety.

The group has identified several measures that hospitals should have in place that have been shown to improve patient safety. Their site includes information about how much progress hospitals have made toward implementing these recommended safety practices.

> Minnesota Department of Health (www.health.state.mn.us).

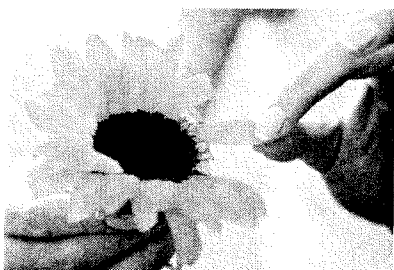
This is the state's lead public health agency. It collects and publishes information from hospitals and outpatient surgical centers that are now required to report whenever any of 27 identified preventable adverse events occur. You can view the information at www.health.state.mn.us/patientsafety.

> Medicare's Hospital Care (www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov).

This site allows individuals to see how well hospitals care for their adult patients with certain medical conditions. It was created through the efforts of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and organizations that represent hospitals, doctors, employers, accrediting organizations, other Federal agencies and the public. The site includes data on widely accepted quality measures in treating such conditions as heart attack, heart failure, and pneumonia.

> Hospital and Outpatient Surgery Center Web Sites.

Most of the hospitals and other health care facilities in this area have developed their own web site. While the information available on the sites varies from organization to organization, many include a wealth of information to aid in your decision-making. Information about quality initiatives, areas of expertise, awards and recognition, amenities and special services are just a few examples of what you may be able to learn from these sites.



QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN CHOOSING A HOSPITAL — AND WHERE TO FIND THE ANSWERS

> Does the hospital meet national quality standards?

Find out if an organization has been accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) by using the Quality Check™ tool on their web site at www.jcaho.org.

> How does the hospital's performance compare with others in my area for my condition?

Use the Hospital Comparison Tool available on myMedica.com to see how area hospitals compare

according to a specific condition or procedure. You can compare based on a variety of factors such as mortality, complications and length of stay. In addition, you may want to check other sites that have comparative information such as www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov and www.healthgrades.com.

> How did the hospital score on the Hospital Patient Safety Survey administered by The LeapFrog Group?

Check the LeapFrog Group site at www.leapfroggroup.org to find out how much progress a hospital has made in implementing several measures that have been shown to improve patient safety. Computerized systems for physicians to order medication and laboratory and imaging tests, extensive experience with specific procedures or diagnoses, and an intensive care unit that is staffed by physicians and other care givers who have special training in critical care are some of the measures included.

> Does the hospital have experience with my condition?

Check the Hospital Comparison Tool available on myMedica.com to see how many patients a hospital has treated for a particular illness or procedure. Currently, available data on numbers of specific procedures is limited to patients on Medicare. Studies show that the more experience a facility has with performing a specific surgery, the more likely the patient is to experience a better outcome.

> Is the hospital or facility in the Patient Choice Insights network?

Use the online directory, available on medica.com, to find the most up-to-date information about the physicians, hospitals and other health care providers and facilities that participate

in the Patient Choice Insights network. You can also check with the facility directly.

> Does my physician have admitting privileges at the hospital?

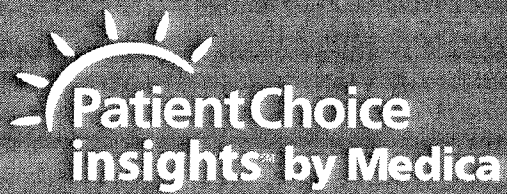
Talk with your physician about where patients are treated when they need to be hospitalized. If you have selected a particular hospital at which to have a procedure, you'll want to find out if your physician is able to treat you at the facility.

> How do costs compare with other area hospitals and outpatient facilities?

Check the Facility Pricing Catalog to see how hospitals and other facilities compare for certain procedures. You should also consider the tier in which a facility is placed and the benefits available under your plan. The tiers offer a quick way for you to see how well a hospital or facility performed on cost and quality measures and assess their overall value. Tier 1 (\$) indicates lowest cost, Tier 2 (\$\$) represents middle cost and Tier 3 (\$\$\$) designates highest cost.

> Has the hospital reported any errors to the Minnesota Department of Health? And if so, are they taking steps to improve?

Area hospitals are required to report to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) whenever any of 27 identified preventable adverse events occur. You can view a report posted on the MDH's web site at www.health.state.mn.us/patientsafety that includes information about the number and type of events that occurred between July 2003 and October 2004. Corrective action plans submitted by those hospitals that reported an event are also accessible on the site.



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